

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY GUILD 1954 MINUTES



Heart of Mary Guild Meeting May 8, 1954

Our spiritual director, Father Aloysius, began the meeting with the prayer to the Holy Ghost, followed by the recitation of the Rosary, Litany of the Blessed Mother, and prayers for the Guild members, both living and dead.

Mrs. Roth our president, then asked that roll call be taken. Plans for introducing records of membership attendance at both the monthly Saturday afternoon and Tuesday evening meetings were announced and the members were asked to check the roll call list to be sure their names, addresses, and phone numbers were correct. If any were not on the list, to please sign the book. In the future, roll call would precede the meeting. Roll call for May 8th, showed 31 members as being present, 7 of them being new members.

Following this, the minutes of the Tues. night meeting were read.

The treasurer gave her report on the April 10th meeting, showing the secret bag collection to be \$4.50, giving a sum of \$69.30; and an expenditure of \$2.85 for Mass cards, leaving a balance of \$66.45.

Father Aloysius then wished that the minutes of the meeting of April 10th be read, and after the reading they were approved as read.

Our president, Mrs. Roth, then had each new member introduced to the Guild, and Father Aloysius personally welcomed each one.

The four aims of our guild were then read as a review for the old members, and to acquaint the new members with them. Also, our requisites as members were repeated, namely: a great desire for personal sanctification, and daily Mass and Holy Communion whenever possible.

Next, a question regarding Spiritual Bouquets was presented and Father answered by saying: There may be as many souls and/or intentions included in a spiritual bouquet as one may desire --- the more the better --- but also remember this may only be possible as long as we are very fervent and don't loose our fervor by spending all our time in mentioning these souls and/or intentions.

Father Aloysius then began his spiritual talk:

Dear ladies in the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

We should try to simplify our spiritual life as much as possible. The Ten Commandments are simplified in these two: the love of God; and the love of our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God. We can simplify all our daily life in three points: 1. Love God. 2. Love God in everyone. 3. Love God in everything.

Point 1. Love God; pay more and more attention to Him. God means more to us each day. We get closer to God each day -- each hour. Be aware that this life passes very quickly. Our aim is to know, serve, and love God in everyone and everything.

Point 2. Therefore, we should love God in everyone.

Point 3. And love God in everything.

1. Love God directly. He to be our center for ever and ever in heaven. The saints in heaven have the most wonderful sight of God --- the whole of heaven like a great theater --most magnificent, immense, holy theater --all facing God! Looking at God without deviating our thoughts from God! There is no time in heaven -- for it is for all eternity. It is the "present" time always in heaven. God immense in all His perfection. We are limited in our appreciation of God and His

magnificence. Like an ocean immense and lost in its vastness. We'll see God in a way most ravishing, most thrilling -- always new mysteries we will be seeing in God. The eyes of our minds will see God face to face in the light of His glory.....seeing God with never a repetition always something new! Eternity draws nearer and nearer. We may be much nearer than we think.

It is wise to prepare ourselves. We must make a point to love God wholeheartedly in our whole life - hourly. Make a point to be so recollect ed in all our doings - to have God before our eyes in all our doings, in all our hearts, in all our works.

See, dear ladies in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild, to increase our love day by day. It would be not too daring to ask God to transplant our hearts, our whole being into His Body and Soul. A lady wrote to the Cardinal, saying that through Bishop Sheen her husband was converted. And that Bishop Sheen wrote her that --"her husband now belongs to the Nobility of Christ and the blood of the King of Kings is now in him."

We have more than that. "In Baptism," St. Paul says, "we are buried to sin with Christ -- a spiritual resurrection! That is why in the early Church, immersion of a person in water was to signify the purifying, the washing away of sins; and the coming back out of the water, as the resurrection from the sepulchre. In Baptism we are clothed with Christ. But much more in Holy Communion -- His blood is our blood. The inferior takes on the Superior. We are changed unto God. Our souls, unto the Soul of Christ; our hearts unto the Heart of Christ; our bodies unto the Body of Christ. His Divinity in us!

Lead a life of Christ during the day - so that we love His Father with His Heart. We, the adopted children of God. This is the first thing Holy Mother Church, on Holy Saturday, refers to - Baptism...the great fact that we are made adopted children of Christ. Therefore, if a King adopts us for His own children, we become members of royalty. In Holy Communion, we are made sharers in His own Divinity - His Nature. Like in a crystal bowl with crystal water within, the sun's rays (God's Divine Nature) illuminates it; so likewise, our souls are illuminated by the state of Sanctifying Grace. The Love of the King of Kings -- the Word Incarnate -- comes to us in Holy Communion and makes us, transforms us, into Him.....blood to Blood....soul to Soul....body to Body. We adore God with Christ, through Christ, and in Christ. All our prayers, all our doings, are directed to God the Father, in the union of the Holy Ghost, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who livest and reignest, God world without end, Amen.

In company with Christ, the First-born, we should be lost in Him as the drop of water with the wine at Mass. First the wine - representing Christ.....then we - as the water, lost in the wine ---- our whole being is lost in the Divinity of Christ, Who is offering all; atoning for sinners; the souls in Purgatory; petitioning His Holy Father for all the graces needed for all souls for all times.

Be lost in Christ all the day as we go about our work....closely associated with Christ. Each moment of time there is a Mass being offered up. We should say, "Through Him, and With Him and In Him, is to Thee, God the Father Almighty, in the Union of the Holy Ghost, all Honor and Glory, world without end." We will be together with Him -- the High, Eternal High, Priest. We are all as priests in this way.....as St. Paul says, "We all share in the Priesthood of Christ". The ordained priest, the one for whom the Mass is offered, all those present, those of the Communion of Saints, those spiritually present, those attending.....share in the Mystery,...day and night....the Mystery of Calvary...the Mystery of the Mass. We, closely associated with Him, live a perpetual Mass.....preparing ourselves this way for

the never ending Presence of God for eternity in heaven.

Appreciate, dear ladies, the Holy Mass, all over the world --- we fulfill the First Commandment in the best possible way.....united... creature with Creator. We give perfect honor and glory being lost in the Infinity of Christ. We, imperfect, to be perfected in Christ in order to love God the Father, Who is Infinity, Who is Perfect Love. Our hearts, minds, souls, should be living this way day and night, rendering to God, the Father of Christ, and our own Father, all honor and glory. We are unable to be given the blood from our adopted fathers. But in God, we have this in Holy Communion.

2. The love of our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God. We must love our neighbors: whether they are foreign or not; attractive or not. We should see Christ in each one. Potential Christs are those who are not baptised. Actual Christs are they who are in sanctifying grace. Those by baptism of desire are also actual Christs.

We should love our neighbor with the very Heart of Christ --- with His immense Love---with the very Charity of Christ.....as St. Paul says, "The Love of Christ presses me on." See nothing else in our neighbor but Christ....either because God is in him or her, or may be in him or her.....another Christ. If they are not in sanctifying grace we pray that they may become members of the Mystical Body of Christ. Christ is the vine, we are the branches...united to Christ to bear much fruit for ourselves and others. Everyone a Missionary. Be close to Christ.....spiritually. Be close....as "one" to the Vine - we the stems...so the blood of the vine goes through the branches....to bear much fruit.

Dear ladies in the Immaculate Heart of Mary, strive for sanctification of souls. As we are among the people....the crowds....thousands and millions....many are groping in darkness. We must be the Missionaries. Love Him in them even though He is not in them yet. We must wish Him in them. Say nothing, but pray and wish Him to be in them....be closely united to Christ to save those souls. All are called to the same heaven. Be aware of the sanctification of not only our own souls, but all souls. Be Missionaries....seek God....love God in everyone. Wish to save everyone of those souls, no matter what they think or say about you. Our duty is to love God....to see God in our neighbor....day and night. Live the Holy Mass perpetually in this way, giving attenntion to Him. Accomplish all God wants you to accomplish, asking God that even they may be above you in heaven. You must do all this....to love God and our neighbor, and see God in everyone.

3. The third point is to love God in everything. To see God's Will in all things. Some days, things annoy us.....it may be our husbands, our children, our neighbor. We must see God in all this. God's Will in all we do. If we are efficient in our everyday life, be so in God's way. Seek God in all our duties. We never find drudgery in doing our work as we do it for God. If God were to appear to us and tell us that we were going to be tried by annoyances during the day, and ask us to bear it patiently for the love of Him, we would say, "Yes, yes!", and consider it a great privilege. But Faith must make up for vision in this life.....a very lively Faith. We must be inspired and enlightened by the most powerful beacon of Faith. To do God's Will wholeheartedly in our daily, hourly duties, is a privilege. As a housewife, a stenographer, or by any other name, our duties are secondary.....God's Will should be first. All commonplace duties will be adorned with jewels of patience, and of doing God's Will.

Imitate the virtues of the Blessed Mother and the saints, who

gave us good example. Avoid evil and do all things in God's Will. If God wants us to be clumsy, God wants this for our humility....this does not belong to us, but to God.

See that we keep, now and forever, day and night, in the Presence of God. This will help us increase our love of God in our preparation for heaven....when we will be face to face with God. We will be seeing something ever new, ever ravishing, ever beautiful. As St. Paul says, "Eye has not seen nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man, what things God has prepared for those who love Him." I-Cor., Chap. 2, Ver. 9.

This is my message I have for you.

At the close of his spiritual talk, Father Aloysius went on to say: We repeat the ever old things in new ways, so that we can better understand them.

I am very happy with this group here.....seeking spiritual life. I feel like a Missionary, and make up for what I do not do out in the Missionary Fields. You in this group, belong to the "inner courts"...the "upper Room" of God. I am very happy with this Guild.

Keep on always, doing the very best you can, in the Immaculate Heart of Mary....for your sanctification. We are all members of the Claretian Order, and share with all Claretians over the whole world. We shall meet in heaven under the banner of St. Anthony Mary Claret in Her Immaculate Heart.

If I should be removed from this Guild, I pray that you continue as you have been doing. I ask your prayers for my increase of devotion, a great increase of humility, for my greater sanctification.

The secret bag was then passed, and Maria Roth explained it's purpose to the members, especially the new members.

As we discussed a postponement of a Marian Pilgrimage, Father Aloysius extended to all of us an invitation to make our pilgrimage the following day, Mothers' Day, to the Claretian House, where we could recite the Rosary, and attend Benediction in their chapel there. We were most pleased and felt greatly honored with such an invitation.

Following the closing prayers, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Sec.

Our spiritual director, Father Aleysius, opened the meeting with prayers to the Holy Ghost, followed by the recitation of the Rosary and Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Roll call was taken, showing 41 ladies present - 12 of these being new members and visitors. A count was taken at Father's request, and we now have approximately 54 active members.

The minutes of the former Saturday meeting of May 8th were read and approved as read; and the minutes of the Tuesday night May 25th meeting were dispensed with, as the secretary was absent and the minutes were brief.

Ida Phair, the treasurer, next gave her report as follows: For the May 8th meeting, the treasury shewed the amount of \$66.45, with a secret bag collection of \$21.88, and donations for medals and cards to the amount of \$3.50 - which gave the total sum of \$91.83 cash on hand. For the May 25th meeting, the treasury shewed the amount of \$91.83, with a secret bag collection of \$2.85, and a disbursement of \$5.00 for Masses, - leaving the amount of cash on hand to be \$89.68.

Next, all the new members were introduced by the ladies who brought them, and Father was very pleased with their being at the meeting.

Maria Roth then told the guild, how one day the thought came to her of all the members of our guild, directing so many prayers heavenward, especially during this time of the Octave of Pentecost, and the numerous feasts in this month. How, many many graces and blessings are being poured out on us all -- we who are striving for personal sanctification.

Father Aleysius than began his spiritual talk:

Dear ladies in the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

Every time the clock struck the hour, St. Teresa used to say, "I am one hour closer to God and eternity."

The past is in God's mercy. Only the present moment is in our hands. All of us without exception -- except Our Blessed Mother and a few privileged saints -- must improve on the past. Begin anew every hour. How shall we do this? First, have great humility. God is so patient with us. There is so much evil in this world, we ask why does God permit so much evil. But He permits all this because God's patience is eternal. There will be a day of reckoning, and we will all have to account for every thing. Only things actually done for God -- done with a love for God -- should be our purpose. Seek God and God alone with the purest intentions in all we do.

Talking to a sister who is dying a very painful cancerous death in St. John's Hospital, this sister who had always been very important in the performing of many duties in her life - she was sought out by many people and attention was given her because of her importance in the performing of her duties - now as she lay suffering, she said she only wanted all this for God. With immense sufferings, she is preparing for eternity -- spending her purgatory here on earth. She is offering her suffering so that she may continue in a still greater measure to do more for God - for the love of God.

Each of us in the same way, whether we have accomplished much or little, we must prepare ourselves. We ladies are inclined towards vanity -- vain glory. Men are inclined towards great pride -- ambitions. All, we have to direct our intentions to God alone -- with the purest of intentions. Therefore, one seeks God's glory, God's will, God's pleasure -- that is all that matters. Do not care about any thing else. Our life is so very short. Even a life span of 70 or 80 is very short, and not all of us -- very few of us -- will reach that far.

Be wise by caring only for God's glory, God's will and increasing our love of God and the sanctification of our souls. Perform all things with the purest of intentions.

Become spiritually refreshed every hour. We all have done not only very little for Almighty God, but done it badly! Everyone of us. Make fervant acts of love for God. Some days we may feel very depressed -- old physically. But we must try no matter how we feel, so that we perform everything with the purest love for God. One act of purest love for God, St. Jerome says, is worth years of actions or deeds done with a lukewarmness.

Now, dear ladies of the Heart of Mary Guild, we all should care more for sanctification from now on by doing all for the pure love of God -- with purity of intention. God, Who we are to contemplate, as we stand face to face with Him in heaven --- our uppermost purpose should be to prepare ourselves for heaven. In the past, we have wasted time. We should really work from now on doing all things with a purity of intention. The most simple, do with a purity of intention. We all crave for vain glory -- we must detach ourselves from that and ask in all our prayers for a greater purity of intention. Direct all, only and always to God. Loving God wholeheartedly in all we do. No matter what the reactions of others -- in favor with or against us -- doesn't matter -- only do it for His greater love and glory. The importance of doing this, as the First Commandment tells us -- that in all things and always, we do this as this is our sole purpose of our whole life.

Every day and every hour, try to make up for the loss of our time. Ask Our Lord, beg for His mercy, for what we lost in the past -- what we wasted in the past. Rectify all this by doing all in our present life in the perfect fulfillment of the First Commandment.

Begin each new day -- resolve the first thought to God -- to be closer to God. Your whole household should be closer to God, too. All graces are passed on to each member of your home -- the soul, the life, the spiritual life of your home. You the channel of grace -- the spiritual mothers -- the models of your homes. You are instrumental in bringing blessings on the family. You will see this grace being poured upon your families or homes because of your fidelity to grace -- you are seeking God in all and through purity of intention.

Start your day -- though the night is not too restful -- begin with Holy Mass and Communien - Rosary - Stations of the Cross -- in this way you bring God's blessings upon you and your families. The closer you get to Christ, the greater power you are to the bringing of souls to God. Be spiritual mothers in the homes -- with the Blessed Virgin Mary. You should be more in earnest to be apostles of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that through Him, and with Him, and in Him be all honor and glory for ever.

My prayer for you -- on the Feast of the Blessed Trinity, the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Feast of the Sacred Heart -- recalling the wonderful words of your president, Maria -- "as we advance in age, we will advance in grace." We should be as the salt of the earth over all of greater Los Angeles -- not what we are before men, but what we are before God. You are very important -- not socially -- but because of your growing closer to God -- because of divine grace, you are a tremendous power for good all over this metropolis. You are the ones who hold the spiritual influence, the arm of the justice of God, from punishing all the souls steeped in sin in this perverted city. As daughters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, you are pleading for the mercy of God over all these souls. You, the ladies in attendance of the Queen, obtain the mercy of God over all these souls..

Following Father Aloysius' talk, our president told about the Marian Year Spiritual Bouquet for Our Holy Father which was introduced by one of the guild members, and we were asked as many as possible to sign our names

and pledges or premises to the paper after the meeting.

Father Aloysius then invited us to the Investiture ceremonies, July 15th at 7:p.m., and the Professions, on July 16th, at 8:a.m.

Maria then extended an invitation to all the ladies present, asking all who possibly can, to attend the Tuesday night meetings, so that we can eliminate the reading of the previous Saturday meeting minutes, and have only the reading of the Tuesday night meeting minutes on the Saturdays - thus leaving more time for our Saturday meetings. These Tuesday night meetings are held every 4th Tues. of the month, at the home of Ida Phair, 5415 3rd Ave

The enthronement of the Sacred Heart, which included spiritually all the homes of all the members of the guild there present, was conducted by Father -- as this is the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart.

The closing prayers were then said, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secretary.

Heart of Mary Guild Tuesday Night Meeting June 22, 1954

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ida Phair. Our president, Mrs. Maria Roth, said the opening prayers, followed by the recitation of the Rosary and Litany of Our Blessed Mother.

The attendance record showed only 5 members besides the 4 officers present.

The minutes and Father Aleysius' spiritual talk of the Saturday, May 25th, meeting were read.

The treasurer's report was given as follows: Cash on hand as of June 12th, Saturday meeting, \$89.68, with a secret bag collection of \$24.38, and \$1.00 for cards and medal donations, bringing the total to \$115.06. The expenditures amounting to \$14.50 for post cards, stamps, and misc. spending, including the amount of \$5.00 for Masses for Father's Feast Day, leaving the amount of Cash on hand to be \$100.56.

Next, Maria gave a very nice talk in which she spoke concerning the members of the Guild and the numbers who attended the Tuesday night meetings. We should have more members present - we should all try to come in order to gain more glory for God and His Blessed Mother. Not only should we attend meetings when Father is present and we know we will be lifted up spiritually because of his being with us; but we should also make the sacrifice, as she realizes it must be for many, to come to the business meetings. A month is too long a time between these "spiritual awakenings", and by reading Father's spiritual talks at the Tuesday night business meetings, we are again refreshed spiritually. To come only on Saturdays, we are a little selfish in coming because we know Father is going to be there. So, do try to come also on the Tuesdays.

The balance of the evening was most interesting and spiritual as Maria read passages from a book of "The Life and Revelations of St. Gertrude.

1. Of the benefit we may derive from our faults:

How Our Lord is pleased with us when perceiving our faults we seriously endeavor to correct them for love of Him; how He loves and prefers the weak hearts which are full of love, to the strong hearts of less affection. And that, with St. Gertrude, who was of such infirmities that she was only permitted to listen during the religious exercises, and she felt she was not as attentive or recollective as she desired. And she asked Our Lord what glory He could possibly be receiving by her attending in such a way as this. And Our Lord replied to her that He found infinite pleasure and glory in every word and even every syllable to which she listened attentively for His glory. And at Mass, St. Gertrude felt unable to rise at the Gospel and she doubted whether to spare herself or not on such occasions, as she had no hope of her recovery. She asked God what would be most for His glory, and He replied: "When, for love of Me, you do anything with difficulty and which is beyond your strength, I receive it even as if I had absolute need of it; but when you omit anything to take due care of your body, referring all to My glory, I consider it in the same manner as an infirm person would consider some relief that it was impossible for him to do without; thus I will recompense you for both according to the greatness of My Divine munificence."

2. Of the value and importance of spiritual Communion:

St. Gertrude had usually an extreme and ardent desire to receive Holy

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Communion, and once when preparing with more than ordinary devotion, she found herself so weak, she feared she would not be able to receive, and according to her usual custom, she consulted Our Lord, wishing to know what would be most pleasing to Him. And He told her that He preferred she deprive herself of Communion through holy prudence on this occasion rather than approach it. And she asked how could He be satisfied by her doing this and He replied: "By your moderation in speech, by your guard over your senses, by all your desired, by all your prayers, by all the good dispositions with which you have prepared to receive My adorable Body and Blood --- these are to Me as the most delicious feed and refreshment."

Feeling great unworthiness to even receive Our Lord spiritually, Our Lord told her that the looks of His Divine mercy would impart to her the necessary preparations. From His words, she understood that the look of God produces three effects in our souls similar to those that the sun produces in our bodies and that the soul ought to prepare in three ways to receive it:

1. The glance of Divine mercy searches the soul, and purifies it from every stain, making it whiter than snow; and we obtain this favour by a humble acknowledgment of our defects.
2. This look of mercy softens the soul, and prepares it to receive spiritual gifts, even as wax is softened by the heat of the sun; and becomes capable of receiving any impression; and the soul acquires this by a pious intention.
3. The glance of Divine mercy on the soul makes it fruitful in the different flowers of virtue, even as the sun produces and ripens different sorts of fruit; and the third effect is obtained by a faithful confidence, which causes us to abandon ourselves entirely to God, confiding assuredly in the superabundance of His mercy, believing that all things will contribute to our eternal welfare, whether they appear favourable or adverse.

Our Lord also said to St. Gertrude, that while he who communicates sacramentally, receives without doubt immense grace both spiritually and corporally, still, he who abstains from communicating through obedience and holy discretion, and purely for the glory of God, being inflamed with Divine love, communicating spiritually merits to receive a benediction like that given to the saint, and obtains from God, more abundant fruit although the order and secret of this conduct is entirely hidden from the eyes of men.

A short and pleasurable discussion followed the reading of these passages, after which the closing prayers were said and the meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Sec.

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Saturday, July 10, 1954

In the absence of our spiritual director, Father Aloysius, the opening prayers to the Holy Ghost were lead by our president, Maria Roth. Special intentions which Father Aloysius asked us to remember were mentioned. The Rosary and Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary were also said.

Roll Call shewed 23 members present, and several of these absent were marked as excused.

Mrs. Hilda Babcock, who first became active in our Guild at our previous Tuesday night meeting, was introduced to the rest of the guild members.

Next, our treasurer Ida Phair was asked to give her report which was as follows: At the Saturday, June 12th meeting: a balance of \$89.68; with a secret bag collection in the amount of \$24.38; the sale of Mass cards and medals amounted to \$1.00; showing the total to be \$155.06. The disbursements in the amounts of one check for \$1.00 to Maria, and \$8.50 to Helen for miscellaneous expenditures; and \$5.00 for Masses for Father's feast day, leaving a balance of Cash on Hand in the amount of \$100.56. At the Tuesday night June 22nd meeting: the secret bag collection was \$6.00, bringing the total Cash on Hand to be \$106.56.

Our treasurer also reported the amount of Masses that had been turned in to Father Aloysius to the amounts of: 89 for the month of April; 89 for the month of May; and 101 for the month of June.

Maria expressed her pleasure that people were becoming more Mass-minded in place of giving flowers for funerals.

The minutes of the June 12th and June 22nd meetings were then read. A correction was made by Maria, saying that the Tuesday night meetings should not be called business meetings, since they were really more spiritual like those on Saturday, only that Father was not present on Tuesday nights. At the Tuesday night meetings, we are able to discuss things, where at our Saturday meetings, with Father present to give us spiritual direction, time does not allow for both.

Maria then mentioned, in reference to a passage regarding the 'look of mercy' taken from the spiritual readings of the Tuesday night meeting, just how great and wonderful this must have been to our Lord and His apostles, when they asked Our Lord about the keeping of the Commandments, and 'Our Lord looked at them lovingly-----.' Think how they must have felt when He did this. Also, how Peter, following Our Lord on the water, and how 'Our Lord reached out to help him.' This brought to mind the radio program on Friday evenings at 7:45pm over KRKD, given by Father Parrish, who was talking on "Confidence in God". Maria said it was very beautiful and that as many as possible should listen to it. Also, we should try to meditate at least 5 minutes every day, and we would come to realize how very close Our Lord really is to us.

The guild members were then told about Charley Gilbert, who is now back at Men's Town after recuperating from his illness; and how he himself says his return to health is definitely a miracle.

We were then informed that the Claretian Fathers will now furnish us with all the Mass cards we need. And an explanation was made about the Claretian Perpetual Mass League --- and that a life membership can be had for either living or dead persons, and that a \$2.00 fee will be accepted. Larger donations may also be given, if individuals so desire....as this all goes towards the Claretian Fathers and their Missionary work.

Maria then announced that Father Aloysius will come on Saturday, July 1st, for our regular meeting. The Tuesday meeting will be dispensed with.

Announcement was made of the invitation to a ceremony in Alhambra at the Carmelite House, and a reminder made of the invitation also, by Father Aloysius, to ceremonies at the Claretian House.

Maria then read for the guild members the 12 points of Purity of Intention, and we were reminded that we should all strive towards the goal as laid out in these 12 points.

The secret bag was then passed among the members.

The closing prayers followed, and the meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secretary

IHM GUILD

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting - July 31, 1954

Our president, Maria Roth, opened the meeting with the prayers to the Holy Ghost, followed by the recitation of the Rosary and Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Roll call showed 29 members present, and of the 31 absent, 17 were excused. New members were then introduced and they were: Marie B. Power, Mrs. Catherine Giltzen, Mrs. Theresa Donakey, Mrs. Agnes F. Stephens, and Mrs. Elizabeth McKee.

The minutes of the previous Saturday meeting of July 10th were then read, followed by the treasurer's report: with the amount of \$106.56 as cash on hand at the beginning of the meeting, and added to this the secret bag collection in the amount of \$12.00, and a disbursement of \$1.50 to Mary Fisher for 2 books (1 for Father and one for the Guild) - leaving a balance of \$117.06 cash on hand.

Maria then welcomed all the new members and the old for coming to the meeting even though the weather was very warm. She went on to tell more about Dolores Arnold, who had been clothed in the Carmelite habit July 16th. Miss Arnold had been the first secretary of our Guild when there were only 11 members. Miss Arnold asked Maria to tell the ladies of the Guild that they all belong to the Carmelite order, even though we are not clothed in the habit; but that we are all striving in the same way for perfection.

Father Aloysius then began his spiritual talk:

Dear ladies of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild:

During this month of August, we are going to honor Our Blessed Mother in a special way, in our daily actions, in all our duties, in all our hourly chores. In this the month of Her great feasts --- of the Assumption, and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary after which our Guild is named.

Father then mentioned the special prayer of St. Francis which takes care of all our problems in every day life. How he feels as though he belongs to the Third Order of St. Francis, since his parents were enrolled in this order, and the Carmelite Third Order.

Father Aloysius went on to say: St. Francis had such a human understanding of problems of this world. Though he never studied, he was inspired by God. This most loving saint has the most loving prayer, and we shall go into this prayer more deeply:

1. Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace: Especially you, as mothers of families: you are the heart, the hearth of your homes, first with your husbands, secondly with your children. Ask the Holy Ghost for the peace of God, that out of this superabundance, this ever-flowing, you can share this peace with others. Sometimes you are prone to answer sharply - not so gracious in your reply. You should try to be patient and ask the Holy Ghost that you reflect His peace in your homes. As mothers, you must have much patience and endure much -- suffer greatly -- courageously, heroically. You must not show the grief within you caused by others. Try to obtain a great amount of holy peace, which is one of the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit which we need. You must be the instrument, the channel of the Author of Peace --- eat of this fruit and make it a part of your food for spiritual life. When you are in ~~sick~~, spiritual need, ask the Holy Spirit for His peace....that peace which Our Lord gave to His Apostles when He said, "Peace I give to you."

2. Where there is hatred, let me sow love: Jealousy brings hatred.

God is Love. We must be all love. Bring God to everyone. You ^{GUARD 1014} pray for everyone. The love between God the Father and the Son, is the love of the Holy Spirit.

3. Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is discord, union: We should reflect the spirit of Christ - the spirit of forgivness which He shewed us by His example on the Cross. When we are injured, we should pray to Christ on the Cross - kiss the Cross fervantly - and He will forgive those who have injured us. There is so much discord in the world! So much animosity! The harmony of God should be reflected through us to all. Our Blessed Mother had a heart of most perfect harmony at the feet of the Cross. We should see that our hearts are as one with Her Immaculate Heart.

4. Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light: Drink of the waters of Faith. Be illumined by Faith; live by confidence in God; be aglow by God's Divine Charity. See that the light be not under the bushel, but on high to guide others. One does not need to be learned, but saturated with the light of Faith. Be all truth, so as to portray Faith. Your life is supported by God, Himself. Count always on God. You can do all things in God, by God, and with God. Where there are shadows, transform them all into light with your prayers and kind deeds and acts.

5. Where there is sadness, joy: Joy is another fruit of the Hely Spirit. He wants to be most active in us....that we make use of His fruits, His graces which He pours out abundantly. When we fail to make use of these fruits and graces, a soul that is about to commit sin, it is as though the Holy Spirit, chained or imprisoned in us is about to be brought to the gallows in our soul. Sadness can be banished through our Faith and Joy of God. In our social contacts, we are given great opportunities to do this.

6. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; We should desire to treat, rather than be treated. Be as Godly as possible in dealing with your neighbors. Do not expect any return, only that you do it for God, Himself, and this should be your greatest aim.

7. To be understood, as to understand: You have so much love - so much interest for those in your household. You should wish to understand them better day to day, bringing to all, the Love, the Light, the Truth, the Harmony, the Peace of God.

8. To be loved, as to love: You, who are called to love, crave so much the love of these you love so dearly. You, as women, have a great desire to love. This love is so created in you by God. Appreciate it and be thankful to God for this gift to love rather than to be loved. Direct all the streams of love from your heart directly to the limitless ocean of love that is God.

9. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born for eternal life; See that you are giving pure love in all you do. That you forget self in all you do. Seek God -- because by forgetting self, one finds God. Be most thorough in your forgiveness, because if you have a big heart, God has a big heart for you. And by dying to ~~His~~'s self, one awakens to God, Himself.

Father Aloysius, then told us how we could prepare for the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Instead of doing anything new, turn to the six points of Purity of Intention and also say the prayers on the blue leaflet every day, and throughout the day. These prayers are so complete; we are singing the praises of Her Magnificat; we are thanking the Most Holy Trinity for giving us Her Immaculate Heart; and we are asking the Blessed Mother as Queen of all the angels and saints to help us fight the evil spirits who are trying to ruin us. We know our Holy Father is going to proclaim the Queenship of the blessed Mother, and we at the same time are asking Her help. The devils are very jealous of all these dedicated to Our blessed Mother.

Father then thanked us all for coming - and said: You are ~~GUILD~~1015 very eager in your spiritual life; this is the most wonderful guarantee that your souls are in the state of grace. I wish to congratulate every one of you in ever-coming all obstacles and difficulties to same, in order to get closer to God through His Blessed Mother.

The closing prayers were said, and the secret bag was passed. Miss Lenoir was thanked for presenting the Guild with newly printed leaflets.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Victoria Wyss, Secretary.

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Saturday August 14, 1954

Our spiritual director, Father Aleysius, opened the meeting with prayers to the Holy Ghost, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and in honor of St. Anthony Mary Claret.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, followed by roll call which showed 36 members present. The financial report showed \$137.06 as amount of cash on hand; and a total of 77 Masses for the month of July.

The Claretian Perpetual Mass League was again brought to our attention, with its aims and benefits explained. And the aims and purpose of our guild were read for the benefit of the new members present.

Father Aleysius then began his spiritual talk:

Dear ladies in the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

I am glad so many are here present - you the spiritually elite - who have come as the elite of the Blessed Mother. In your great desire to become more like her and her Divine Son -- more Christlike -- you gather here on the eve of her Assumption.

In the great picture of Our Blessed Mother by Murillo, it shows us how her whole mind was taken up with God. This was so from her first moment on earth. We in our own feeble way should imitate Our Blessed Mother. Always thinking that we are some day going to be saints in heaven with Our Blessed Mother and her Divine Son.

Father then went on to say that just as Our Blessed Mother was Assumed into heaven, that we be always intent on heavenly things, the everlasting life, the life which we must soar unto - high as the eagle - soaring high, facing God.

It is God's Will we take care of our daily chores without losing sight of eternal life. See that our obligations are fulfilled as being God's Will. Our Blessed Mother went about her house duties performing them as uninterrupted prayers -- her intentions, mind, love -- all, directed to God.

It is most important to remember we must all go through the gate of death into eternity. It should not be frightening. For those who love God --- it is a golden gate. A premature death can be a blessing in disguise. Our Lord sends us disease and sickness in the goodness of His Heart. We who have Faith, Hope, and Love in God, are facing God. By fulfilling our duties -- our motivation being to do the Will of God -- doing everything in the state of sanctifying grace -- these are worth new merits on earth and an increase of glory in heaven. Our life is so very short. Each year is growing seemingly shorter in time. All this is as a reminder we are called to heavenly things -- to God, Himself.

Then Father said: Our Blessed Mother enjoyed the fulness of meditations - the most full measure of love - from the first moment of her conception. We should do our best to imitate Our Blessed Mother. Tomorrow, the feast of the Assumption, commemorating the last moment of Our Blessed Mother on earth, we should see that we are all enveloped in the spiritual folds of the garments of her love.

You have a clear sign of predestination as members of this Guild, whose aim is the greater glorification of the Blessed Virgin Mary; to honor her always and love her under the title of Mother; to be missionaries of Her; to spread Her love; and to bring others to Her.

We are afraid of death, because we are wanting in so many things. Many accounts are to be cleared. Our Blessed Mother had none of these. We must try to do our best to do all with a Purity of Intention for Almighty

God. When we say, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death", we must mean this most surely. We will be pleading with our hearts to our Mother of Mercy to pray for us at the hour of our death - to take us in her very heart to God.

We should fulfill what Saint Paul says: We must be aware, the things of this earth must pass; and use things of earth to help us gain our salvation -- as a means to eternity. It is important what Holy Mother Church tells us: That we always face eternal things, facing God, we His loving children working all things with utmost graciousness and love, with Purity of Intention for God, Our Father.

See in God, His Will in all our daily happenings. We cannot be in meditation all day - but we must see the Will of God, be talking with Him and His Blessed Mother and the Saints in all our daily chores. Our minds on our work -- our souls on God.

God does not approve, but permits our feelings to be hurt, so we can bow to His Way and bear it for our own sanctification. Do not show impatience with your children. Tell them the wrong they've done, in the right way. Tell them the correction with great patience. Act always in the presence of God, always facing heavenly things, God's Will. In days when things go wrong, go about your duties as calm as possible -- say as little as possible. It is up to you -- the way you are, the way your homes will be. We must try to imitate the life of Our Blessed Mother, in our own imperfect way, as much as possible, since her duties were externally the same as ours. Ask her to help us in the performance of all our duties -- reflecting her virtues, so that those who are with us may benefit by these virtues. The Latin word Passus, means to suffer or to be patient; and we, by our patience, must keep others from suffering. Our Lord wants this mortification, this penance of perfect patience from us. Instead of poisonous snakes, be as innocent doves. In the first century of the Church they gave much thought to patience. In reciting the Divine Office, ^{are} these words: May God lead our hearts and souls in the Charity of God and Patience of Christ. Strive after the imitation of Christ, especially His Patience of His Suffering and Crucifixion.

Every day, new ways are given for us to do the Will of God. We must keep facing God, always, through His Blessed Mother -- always facing heavenly things.

Following Father's talk, the secret bag was passed, the closing prayers were said, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secretary.

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Tuesday August 24, 1954

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ida Phair. The regular opening prayers, Rosary, and Litany of Our Blessed Mother were said.

In the absence of our secretary, minutes were taken by Helen Kavanagh. The treasurer gave her report. And members present - 12.

Maria Roth gave spiritual readings from "The Sacrament of the Present Moment"--- which told about the Permissive Will of God; and how the effort and not success that counts. Also she read a few pages from the book entitled, "At the School of St. Therese of the Child Jesus" translated by Collins, which were also very enlightening and of spiritual value.

Following, is a short poem which Maria read. It was adapted from "The Priest at His Prie-Dieu":

"For every pain that we must bear, for every burden, every care,
There's a reason.
For every grief that bows the head, for every tear drop that is shed,
There's a reason.
For every hurt, for every plight, for every lonely pain racked night,
There's a reason.
But if we trust God as we should, all must work out for our good,
He knows the reason."

After the closing prayers were said, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen Kavanagh

Our Spiritual director, Father Aleysius, opened the meeting with prayers to the Holy Ghost, Our Blessed Mother, and Saint Anthony Claret.

The minutes of the previous saturday and tuesday meetings were read. Attendance record showed 33 members present. The financial report was read, and \$129.92 the amount given as Cash On Hand. The total of Masses for the month of August was 105.

After this, the meeting was turned over to Father Aleysius. He gave a short discussion of the aims of our guild, and following this, questions were answered by father. Briefly, they were:

1. How can rosaries that have been blessed, say, by Our Holy Father, be sold by Missionaries; is the blessing lost?

Ans: The blessing is not lost in this case, since Missionaries must get financial help in this manner towards their support of their missions.

2. Do all priests have the power of exorcism?

Ans: Yes. This is the third minor order conferred on all priests. However, Holy Mother Church has reserved the right to give permission to certain priests who have been appointed by their bishops in their diocese....it is they who decide whether or not the person in question is in need of exorcism. Msgr. O'Halleran is the priest who has been authorized in our diocese to perform exorcism when necessary. Sometimes, a person is not possessed, but is obsessed by the devil ---that is, he is surrounded, bothered, or annoyed by the devil. Every soul in mortal sin, is possessed by the devil and is doomed to hell while in this state. By God's permission, the devil goes into the body of an innocent person and afflicts the body, but cannot harm the soul. There is nothing to be afraid of as long as he possesses only the body. Our best weapon is prayer, and as long as we pray, we will be the conquerors. The devil is chained as long as we pray. Always use the holy names of Jesus and Mary immediately upon any temptation. The greatest desire of the devil is to make people believe there are no devils! The whole atmosphere is so black with devils all over the world, that according to some saints, hell is empty --- they are so busy here on earth.

3. The next question dealt with the patience of mothers in the bring up of their children:

Ans: When a child knows something is wrong, and wants to do it anyway, you should say what ever you have to say with perfect firmness and with great patience. Let them see you are controlling yourselves perfectly. Keep your place as a mother - particularly with sons, who have more physical vigor, this is important. Be sure not to hurt or crush them, in the manner in which you speak to them. Let them see your soul is far above any physical force, so that he or she will see this and respect you. Be firm in stating their obligations, and tell them you must answer before God for their souls.

4. Regarding non-catholics who talk against the Church: tell them they are misinformed, even though they don't think so. Their pride will be hurt.

The more their pride is hurt, that shows the more they are in the wrong. Tell them they are hurting you deeply by talking against such things; that you would like to keep their friendship; that you are very loyal to your religion and to God; and that there is no compromise. "Please do not continue in this manner, if you would like to be nice to me!" tell them.

5. The next question dealt with silently standing-by while someone else talks about another. In doing this, does one share in the sin? Or is it best to say nothing and avoid unnecessary arguments?

Ans: Father advised one to say this: "I do not like what you say. Pardon my frankness, but if I partake in your conversation, I would displease God. If I am to lose your friendship, I'm sorry: my soul is more important --- I have but one soul to save -- my own."

Father Aleysius then gave a short spiritual talk, in which he also treated the definition of venial sins:

Since we are honoring the Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother, we should try to promote an immaculate conscience as much as our human frailty will permit. We can distinguish between right and wrong, and we have a lifetime in which to try to keep this conscience without stain. This immaculate conscience consists in an impenitent will which rejects every thing which might be offensive to the Will of God. A soul which hungers and thirsts for perfect purity, will have perfect cleanliness. We see flowers whose petals close with the slightest touch -- we too with a delicate conscience which immediately becomes aware of the slightest danger. St. Thomas of Aquinas says, the sensitivity of a soul is the sure sign of great grace. When Our Lord grants this grace to a soul, He is preparing in this soul a paradise for Himself to which He comes with great complacency and joy to have His rest in that soul.

Nothing tainted or soiled to the least degree can enter into heaven. We are here stepping on the mire of this earth and we should try to keep our garments as spotless as we possibly can as we walk through this mire. The just soul falls seven times a day. We poor sinners fall often. With great humility, we should not be discouraged by our faults.

This immaculateness of soul requires our admission of our sinfulness day by day. We must admit our many faults, imperfections, numerous frailties in our daily examination of conscience. Be not angry with ourselves but have great patience with ourselves. Pray that in spite of our renewed falls, we will find them less in quality and number.

An imperfection is anything aside from a mortal sin and deliberate venial sin which stands in opposition to the Will of God. We all commit countless imperfections every day -- every hour. A venial sin of surprise is one of a weak will. A deliberate venial sin is one of a weak bad will. Venial sins of surprise are also called half sins and are not serious to our perfection and can be used as a means to obtain our sanctification. These sins are a habitual means for confession for fervant souls. These sins of surprise show us who and what we are and show us how far we must go towards perfections and they help us gain our salvation.

Father also said there is so much abuse of Divine Grace every day. We should ask our Blessed Mother and Our Divine Lord for most delicate consciences so we can strive as perfectly as possible to please God. Help one another by prayer and during Her feasts this month, console Her in Her sorrows -- for all the hurt to Her Divine Son and in Her own sorrows --- for the sins of mankind.

The closing prayers were then said, and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secretary

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Tuesday September 28, 1954

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ida Phair. The opening prayers, Rosary, and Litany of Our Blessed Mother were said. The minutes of the Saturday, Sept. 11th meeting were read. The treasurer reported the amount of \$150.42 as Cash On Hand. Next it was suggested that instead of having roll call on saturdays, each one sign a book as they arrive. A table will be set up on Helen's front porch where even late-comers can sign without disturbing the rest. By doing this, we can have more time for Father Aloysius' talks.

Maria then gave a resume of one of Father's past talks, which dealt with the Merciful Love of Christ. It was very beautiful.

We were next told of an interesting article which appeared in the Sunday Visitor entitled, "How You, Too, Can Become A Saint", and it was suggested we read the article. *re: Little Flower*

Ida brought a pamphlet, a little of which Maria read to us and it bears repeating: Words of Our Lord to St. Mechtilde: "Receive it as a most certain truth, that if anyone hears Holy Mass devoutly and zealously, I will send him for his consolations and defense at the hour of his death, as many of the glorious spirits who stand around My throne, as he will have heard Masses with devotion."

Following this, the closing prayers were said, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secretary

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Saturday October 9, 1954

The regular opening prayers to the Holy Ghost, Our Blessed Mother, and St. Anthony Claret were said by our spiritual director Father Aleysius. Three prospective members were introduced to the guild. Following this, the minutes of the previous meetings were read; the treasurer gave her report, with a total of \$167.92 as Cash-On-Hand; and the number of Holy Masses for the month of September, to be 87.

Our president, Maria, called our attention to an article in the Tidings regarding the sad plight of the Catholics in Hanoi, Indo-China. Father Aleysius told us to pray to The Little Flower, the Patroness of all the Missions -- and how she, in her lifetime, once ^{HOPED} thought that she would ^{BE SENT} open ^{TO THE} Carmelite House in Hanoi....but she never did; it is here, now, that these priests and sisters have stayed behind with the remaining Catholics, as the Reds take over this territory. What a great thing they are doing-- we should appreciate the blessings we have, and pray for them.

The meeting was then turned over to Father Aleysius, who began his spiritual talk by answering the following question: "How can we bless Our Lord when we are so insignificant?" First of all, Our Lord does not need us-----but He wants us! If you had a birthday celebration, and all but one of your children came to greet you, you would experience some sadness along with your joy. These present, would not add to your health, or welfare, but would give you joy. But some of that joy would be taken away, because one failed to greet you.

We are all God's children. He left heaven to become man, and live with us, to shew us how to live, and then to suffer and die for us. In the example He gave us, His children, we have a sanctity which is of permanent quality with the Divinity of Christ, which gives us a share in the Nature of God. He loves us and wants us to praise His Name and seek His Glory.

Father then explained the prayer, The Our Father; in two parts: the first part all belongs to God. It tells us, God is our Father. This should be a great consolation for us. We ask that His Name be blessed; that His Kingdom come; His Will be done on earth. We should say this prayer most fervently -- often. We must realize we are God's children; we must care for the things of God. Take constructive attitude of things in our daily life. Some people, in difficulties, become too self-centered. We should realize this life is not our life. God knows how to deal with each one of us. As St. Paul says: "Everything turns out the best for all the souls who are to be saved." St. Augustian says: "Even by our sins --- God helps us to realize what we need to do for our salvation." God never sends any trouble beyond one's endurance. He sends divine grace with all our trials. The keener the pain, or trial, the greater our need to pray. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, being so Divine, paid our debt to His Father by His Passion and Death. His Divinity left His Humanity when He suffered all for love of us -- His suffering was most painful. When people complain about their sufferings, we must make them realize they are hurting God by feeling like this -- they must see Christ, more -- become less self-centered -- suffer for their own sins -- perhaps it is their Purgatory here on earth. Welcome our trials and sicknesses! We should see the Will of God in them! It is a blessing to know that through these we will see heaven. Our sufferings on earth are only like "painted fire" in comparison to the real Purgatory! Therefore, whatever the suffering God wants of us, we must say, "Thy Will be done." This do, for your greater sanctification.

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Saturday November 13, 1954

The regular opening prayers to the Holy Ghost, Our Blessed Mother and St. Anthony Claret were said by our spiritual director, Father Aloysius. The minutes of the previous meetings were read; the treasurer's report showed \$126.43 as amount of cash on hand. Our president, Maria, then told the guild members of the things she and Helen Kavanagh had done in caring for the altar and the sacristy of the chapel used by Father Aloysius, and the necessary expenses paid for from the guild funds. Father Aloysius expressed his thanks, and went on to say that we, our guild, are the Altar Society of the Claretian Order.

Next the subject of a Christmas Party was discussed, and it was decided that instead of a party, we would prepare spiritually for the Feast of Christmas on that day of our meeting, devoting party-time to a spiritual talk from Father.

Father Aloysius thanked each one of us for the Jubilee prayers and Congratulations which he received, at the same time expressing his deep humility and wish to keep all personnel attention of his celebration to a minimum.

A contribution from our fund, with the possibility of additional donations, was offered to Father as a Jubilee gift, to be applied towards the purchase of a Chalice for which Father is saving. Father most graciously expressed his thanks, and went on to say, that years from now, when the Chalice would still be in use, it would still be used to hold the Precious Blood of Our Lord.....it would remain as a monument to Our Lord, The High Priest!

The remainder of the meeting was given to Father's explanation of the Advantages and Privileges of belonging to the Claretian Order. The following was transelated from Spanish, and came to us from Rome:

ADVANTAGES AND PRIVILIGES

1. The greatest of all privileges for a Guild member, is to contribute to the glory of God, one's own sanctification and the salvation of all souls. A member of the Claretian Guild is an apostle without leaving one's own family.

2. To share in the prayers and good works of the Congregation of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Claretian Fathers) and of the other members of the Claretian Guild. This is considered by the Holy See sort of a third Claretian Order, in which the apostleship and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary are predominant.

3. By the fact of being a Claretian Guild Member, one is likewise inscribed in the Pious Missionary Union of the Immaculate Heart, according to what has been said above, they are able to gain:

A plenary indulgence the day of entering or the Sunday following; on the days of the Epiphany of the Saviour, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pentecost, Immaculate Conception, Assumption, Immaculate Heart of Mary; the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Annunc-

iation; Purification; Holy Mary Queen of the Apostles; St. Anthony Mary Claret; St. Alphonsus Mary de Ligouri; St. Ignatius of Loyola; St. Francis Xavier; St. Francis Solano; St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen; St. Peter Claver; St. Theresa of Jesus; St. Catherine of Sienna.

A plenary indulgence at the hour of death, which can be gained by each one of the members if, confessed and having received the Holy Eucharist, or at least contrite, they invoke orally, or if they should not be able, mentally, the Most Holy Name of Jesus and would accept death from the hand of God as the tribute of sin.

A partial indulgence of one hundred days which the members are able to gain as often as they would perform some act of piety or charity in favor of the Claretian Vocations and the Missions entrusted to the Congregation, which are the aims of the Pious Missionary Union of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In serious illnesses and particularly at the hour of death the Guild Members shall be visited by the Claretian Fathers, and assisted spiritually and recommended to the prayers of the Claretian Family.

The deceased Guild Member shall participate in the suffrages of the Claretian Congregation and moreover there shall be celebrated for each a Holy Mass in the See to which they belong. Each year a Requiem High Mass shall be celebrated for all the deceased Members of the Claretian Guild on the day available following the feast of Saint Anthony Mary Claret.

To point #3, Father Aloysius said further regarding the gaining of indulgences: we should, at the end of each day, say an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of our Holy Father, so that we may secure the indulgences we may have been entitled to gain during the day. The period within which we may gain the indulgences under the usual conditions, is within 15 days before or after the appointed day or Feast.

Father next answered a question which referred to the saying of Grace at meals, where those present may not believe in it or may ridicule you for saying it: "She should continue to say grace in the presence of her husband or other members of the family. She will be most blessed. It is a great thing.....she can suffer persecution in her own home!" Father said, we should all pray for her, and she should pray also, for the grace of Fortitude from the Holy Spirit, to bear this, and that the other members of her household will come to see her way eventually. Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

A second Marian Pilgrimage was planned, Father Aloysius extending to all the invitation to visit the chapel at the Claretian House. A date of Nov. 21st, Feast of the Presentation of Our Blessed Mother, was selected as the day. Following this, the closing prayers were said and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria E. Wuss, Sec.

Heart of Mary Guild Meeting, Saturday December 11, 1954

Our meeting was opened by the recitation of the Holy Rosary with beautiful meditations given by our spiritual director, Father Aloysius.

Following the prayers, the new prospective members were introduced to Father and the Guild. The minutes of the previous Sat. meeting were read. The treasurer's report showed \$163.23 amount of cash on hand; and a total of 83 Masses for the month of November.

Father said that the Mass for the deceased Guild Members would be said in December, the date to be made known later to Maria and the members.

Maria thanked all those who brought cookies for those at the Claretian Novitiate; she also thanked the guild members who did up linens for Father and his boys. Maria also showed us one of Father's albs on which the old lace was replaced with new, and that the guild was to be billed for same.

We were reminded of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to be celebrated Dec. 12th, and of the procession which would be on that day. Also, that there was to be a midnight Mass at St. Isabelle's Church in honor of the Feast.

Next, it was decided upon for the convenience of all, that our Saturday meetings would hereafter be from 2:30 to 4:30.

Father Aloysius then began his spiritual talk:

Dear Ladies in The Immaculate Heart of Mary:

We are about to celebrate the Feast of Christmas. In this feast, we find an expression of the immensity of God's love for us: to take our body, to live, suffer, and die for us. The greatest thing we should learn, is how to love God. Learn to fulfill the 1st Commandment - and the second is like unto this: to love our neighbor who shares the Nature of God like we ourselves. We must love God in our neighbor.

The heart of a woman has no limitations - as love lightens her burdens. We should all increase in the love of God. His Love is all Pure. Love Him because He is all good. As a child, love God more because He is Our Father, than that He gives us our needs.

There should be 3 degrees in our charity towards God:

1. Have great horrer for sin. Detest it and avoid it. Sin is opposite to God. It is of infinite maliciousness - as God is of infinite mercy. A soul with stain becomes an enemy of God. Ask Our Lord for grace to realize what sin is! The queen of France, Blanca of Castile, once said to her son Louis: "My son, I love you very much; but I prefer to see you dead rather than you have a mortal sin on your soul." St. Francis of Assisi said that he wouldn't know how to act if he were exposed to sin! We should likewise avoid all occasions of sin.

Since all depends on our ability to think, we must always direct our minds to God. Thus, one can make all thoughts or dangers of sin most remote by meditating on Christ's Crucifixion, His Scouraging, and the Torments of the Carrying of His Cross. Keep your children's minds trained on Christ's Crucifixion at all times of

temptation so that danger of sinning will be most remote by this practice.

2. Have grave regret for past sins - great or small, many or few. St. Aloysius committed only two venial sins in his life, and because of his immense sorrow, he fainted at the feet of his confessor. God gave him a most keen knowledge of the deep horror of sin - even though slight.

Make every day a new day of new efforts towards improvement in sanctity and holiness. In the Offertory of the Mass we have the prayer which reads: "In a humble spirit and a contrite heart may we be received by Thee, O Lord....." We must be every moment with this attitude in the presence of the All Holy. It is a grace of God -- a great blessing -- to see and come to know our own weakness. God is Supreme Light. We come closer to the light - in the darkness of which we are - the closer we come to God. We see our own tremendous imperfections as we grow closer to the perfections of God.

In this second degree of charity towards God, we should also have sorrow and spiritual sadness for the sins committed by others, and desire that they committ these sins no longer. This is the purpose of our guild!

3. The conformity of our will to the Will of God. In sickness and health, youth and old age, and everywhere -- we see the Will of God in all things. When a group of children went to Rome to see Our Holy Father, he said to them: "We come by this sickness because of God's Will and we receive this sickness as the goodness of God's mercy so that we can offer our sickness in union with the great sufferings of Christ." Our Holy Father's illness is from Christ to offer his own sufferings with His.

In time of trials, sickness, or friction in the home: be consoled when these grow, because our own souls also are growing in grace. Our souls are made more able to cope with all our trials because of this. Be thankful to God for this and let us say, "Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

These three degrees make our love sound - solid - for Almighty God.

There are three other degrees of Charity to God:

1. Love of benevolence; 2. love of complacency; 3. and love of conformity with God.

When there is complacency, we enjoy or are pleased with the good results of things. So therefore, with love of complacency, we are spiritually pleased with God for all He has done, will do, and does for us. God is all pure. God is in us.....we are His tabernacles....His cathedrals. In eternity, God will take up most completely all our love, thoughts, everything! Nothing else will matter! We will all be lost in God!

Our prayers should be prayers of complacency in God that He is all and it is He with whom we will some day be for all eternity.

This, is our restless night.....till we awake to God...All Beautiful.....to His Perfections.....to His Glory.

As time ran out, Father's spiritual talk was to be continued at the next meeting. The closing prayers were said and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Wyss. Secy.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild

Tuesday Meeting December 28, 1954

The meeting was held at the home of Ida Phair. The opening prayers, Rosary, and Litany of Our Blessed Mother were said. The minutes of the Saturday, Dec. 11th meeting were read. The treasurer reported \$231.22 amount of cash on hand; money for Masses was still coming in, so there was no total for the Dec. Masses. As we failed to announce the total of Masses for the month of Oct., it is hereby given in the amount of 162.

Maria then stated that Father would like to have the title of our guild to be changed to the "Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild". Changes have been carried through to make it official.

Spiritual readings by Maria then followed: taken from the book "At the School of St. Therese." St. Therese is called the Saint of little ones and of the weak. A little soul went to St. Therese asking her help in following her "little way". This soul felt so incapable of living such a heroic way such as the Little Flower lived. But St. Therese assured her it was possible....and that it was solely the work of God's merciful love to which she had surrendered herself. And, should this soul not succeed to the same degree as God had led her, still this soul should not be discouraged. For holiness does not consist in the sublimity of our works but in the sincerity of our love. We cannot of ourselves produce this love, but it is a grace which the good God never refuses to those who beg for it with fervour.

And a few words read to us from the book on the Revelations of Saint Gertrude as a fitting preparation for the Feast of the Circumcision, left us with the thought: that with the beginning of the approaching New Year, we should strive to know even our slightest faults and weaknesses, with a firm resolve to better our spiritual life. As Our Lord told St. Gertrude, we too must be cleansed spiritually.

The closing prayers were said, and the meeting was adjourned. After the meeting, those who could remain, were shown colored slides of scenes taken in Rome by her son; also colored movies which were all most interesting and entertaining. (Maria showed the pictures.)

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Wyss, Secy.